

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Rene Chiocca
SERIAL NO.: 10/578,147 CONFIRMATION No.: 8817
FILING DATE: March 23, 2007
TITLE: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR CONDITIONING NUCLEAR FUEL
ASSEMBLIES WITH DOUBLE CONFINEMENT
EXAMINER: Chang, Hanway
ART UNIT: 2881

Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

These comments are responsive to the Notice of Allowance mailed on April 22, 2010.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowance of Claims (i.e. claims 1-24). Applicant respectfully urges that additional and/or alternative reasons for allowance may exist apart from the arguments or remarks made by the Examiner and/or the Applicant during the prosecution of the above captioned case and thus are not limited to those statements. These reasons may each be independently sufficient to establish the patentability of one or more of Claims (i.e. claims 1-24).

Applicant respectfully reserves the right to introduce, articulate, or otherwise comment on any such additional reasons for allowance as may be appropriate in any future proceedings concerning the one or more claimed embodiments.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment to our Deposit

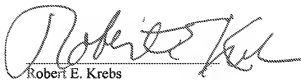
Account number 50-3557.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON PEABODY LLP

Dated:

15 July 2010


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